(b) the Acts, Rules and Notifications that forbid the transmission of pornographic pictures through SMS; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce a Bill to regulate or prevent the misuse of camera mobile phones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Integration of various devices in one device is an advantage provided by the advancement of technology by way of convergence of communication, computers and content. Camera mobile phone is one of such device. Use of camera mobile phone for taking pictures is similar to using any other miniature camera attached with other device such as camera in-built in a pen, camera in-built in a cigarette lighter etc. Therefore use of camera mobile phone solely depands on the user and offences such as taking illegal photography using camera mobile phone are covered under the existing laws of the land like Indian Penal Code etc.

BSNL Plans for Broadband Services

4505. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL plans big broadband push in many States;

(b) if so, whether out of 198 cities being covered by State owned company for offering broadband services, 21 cities are from Southern States;

(c) whether BSNL is also rolling out broadband service aggressively in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, by when these plans are likely to be implemented and completed; and

(e) the total amount involved in these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir, BSNL has planned Broadband in all the States of India.

(b) Out of 198 cities being covered by BSNL for offering Broadband service, 66 cities are from Southern States out of which 22 cities are from Tamil Nadu, 18 cities are from Andhra Pradesh, 11 cities are from Kerala and 15 cities are from Karnataka.

(c) Yes Sir, BSNL is rolling out Broadband services aggressively in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Sir, BSNL has already planned Broadband services in 20 cities of Maharashtra namely Ahmednagar, Akola, Amrawati, Aurangabad, Chandrapur, Dhule, Jalgaon, Kalyan, Kolhapur, Latur, Nagpur, Nanded, Nasik, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Solapur, and Yeotmal, and in 18 cities of A.P. namely Anantpur, Cuddapah, Bhimavaram, Guntur, Hyderabad, Khammam, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Ongole, Rajamundry, Tirupati, Vijaywada, Vishkapatnam and Warrangal.

Sir, BSNL has already launched Broadband services in Pune in Maharashtra and in Hyderabad in AP. The remaining cities are likely to be covered in a progressive manner by June, 2005.

(e) The total amounts involved in these projects of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh are Rs. 33 Crores and Rs. 30 Crores respectively.

VPTs in Tamil Nadu

4506. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of tele-density in rural and urban areas of Tamil Nadu;